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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	Valtirov Shipyards: Construction of Floating Cranes 25X1	DATE DISTR.	29 December 1953	
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		REFERENCES		

- 25X1
1. The Valtirov (N 51/F 54) shipyards, which since the beginning of 1953 have been used chiefly for repairing barges of the Czechoslovak Elbe-Oder Navigation Company (CSPLO), are also engaged in assembling floating cranes.
 2. These cranes weigh 180 tons and have a capacity of two tons. Up to 150 tons can be stored on the crane. The engines are diesel and are of approximately 150 h.p. The cranes can extend eight meters to either side. They are manned by crews of three: helmsman, engineer and crane operator.
 3. The hulls for the floating cranes are being manufactured in the Valtirov shipyards. The crane parts and engines are supplied by the Pardubice Skoda Works (sic), whose engineers assemble the finished cranes in the shipyards.
 4. The floating cranes will be used for loading and unloading barges in mid-stream and also to lighten cargoes in order to reduce draft at low water.
 5. Workers in the shipyards believe that 12 cranes are to be built, six for the CSPLO, three for Poland and three for East Germany. Four cranes have been completed and work on two others is in progress. One crane is already being used by the CSPLO, but the other three are out of order on account of clutch defects. Tests are being carried out to correct this defect.

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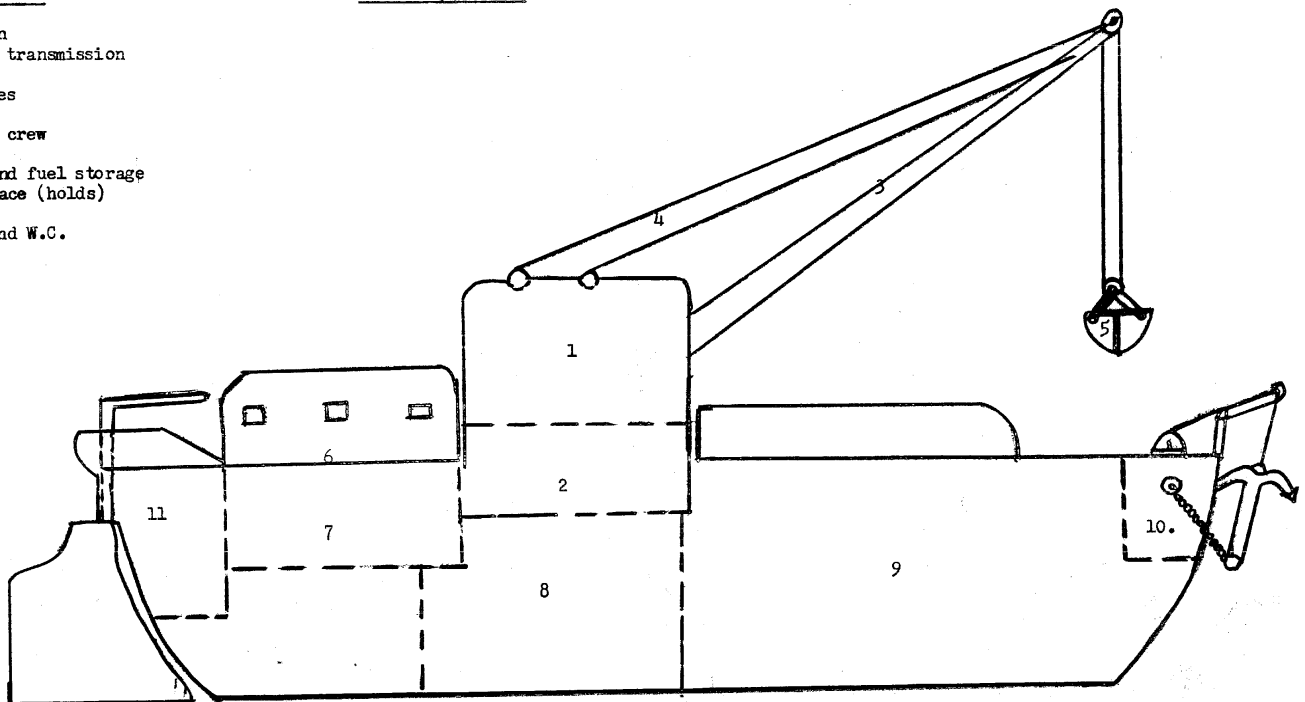
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- 2 -

Floating Crane

Legend to Sketch:

1. Crane cabin
2. Engine and transmission
3. Crane arm
4. Steel cables
5. Shovel
6. Cabins for crew
7. Storage
8. Workshop and fuel storage
9. Storage space (holds)
10. Anchor
11. Bathroom and W.C.



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